

1. Parish: Beyton

Meaning: Homestead by brook or Beaga's homestead

2. **Hundred:** Thedwastre

Deanery: Thedwastre (–1972), Lavenham (1972–)

Union: Stow

RDC/UDC: Thedwastre RD (–1974), Mid Suffolk (1974–)

Other administrative details:

Thingoe and Thedwastre Petty Sessional Division
Bury St Edmunds County Court district

3. **Area:** 644 acres (1912)

4. **Soils:** **Mixed:**

- a. Deep well drained fine loam over chalk, coarse loam over clay and fine loams some with calcareous subsoils.
- b. Some deep well drained sandy soils, in places very acid with sub-surface pan, risk wind erosion.
- c. Fine loam over clay with slowly permeable subsoils, slight seasonal waterlogging. Some calcareous/non calcareous slowly permeable clay soils.

5. **Types of farming:**

1500–1640	Thirsk:	Sheep-corn region where main crops are barley. Sheep main fertilizing agent, bred for fattening. Also has similarities with wood-pasture region with pasture, meadow, dairying and some pig keeping.
1818	Marshall:	Wide variation of crop and management techniques including summer fallow in preparation for corn and rotation of turnip, barley, clover, wheat on lighter lands.
1937	Main crops:	Wheat, oats, barley
1969	Trist:	More intensive cereal grown and sugar beet
1912		Fruit growers listed

6. **Enclosure:**

7. **Settlement:**

1978 Small well spaced development. Main settlement around green. Church situated half way between Green and Beyton House. Development spreads along Church Road to Beyton House and along Quakers Lane. Scattered farms.
Inhabited Houses: 1674 – 16, 1801 – 36, 1851 – 83, 1871 – 87, 1901 – 79, 1951 – 124, 1981 – 145

8. Communications:

Roads: To Thurston, Rougham Hissett and Woolpit.

Rail: 1891 1½ miles Thurston Station. Bury St Edmunds–Cambridge line opened 1879. Thurston station became unmanned halt 1967.

9. Population:

1086 – 1 free man recorded
1327 – 29 taxpayers paid £3 8s. 5¾d.*
1524 – 14 taxpayers paid £0 11s. 10d.
1603 – 64 adults
1674 – 24 households
1676 – 69 adults
1801 – 231 inhabitants
1831 – 330 inhabitants
1851 – 394 inhabitants
1871 – 363 inhabitants
1901 – 351 inhabitants
1931 – 303 inhabitants
1951 – 394 inhabitants
1971 – 410 inhabitants
1981 – 376 inhabitants

10. Benefice: Rectory 1831, Discharged Rectory 1844

1254 Portion of the Rector £3 6s. 8d.
Portion of the Priory of Butley £1 £4 6s. 8d.
1291 Value £4 6s. 8d.
1535 Value £4 3s. 9d.
1831 1 curate, stipend £70 p.a. Glebe house unfit for residence.
Incumbent also holds vicarage of Hinxton and Swavesey, Cambs
and Rectory of Acton Scott, Salop
Value £175 1835
1887 8 acres 3R 9P glebe, gross rent £8 15s. p.a.
1891 Tithe rent-charge of £213. 10 acres 33R glebe. Rectory house
1912 Value £100 p.a.

Patrons: The King (1603), The Crown (1831), Lord Chancellor (1874)

11. Church: All Saints

(Chancel, nave, N aisle, S porch, round W tower)

1086 No church listed
Norman N doorway and tower
1643/44 William Dowsing (Puritanical Vandals) destroyed 20 pictures,
Steps levelled
1854 Nave rebuilt, N aisle with Gothic arcade added + exterior flint
facing added
1885 Chancel lengthened

Seats: 83 appropriated, 167 free (1874)

12. Nonconformity etc:

1676 4 papists, 7 nonconformists
1813–1847 3 houses set aside for worship

13. Manorial:

Beyton Manor

1276 Linked to Rattlesden (Adam de Ratlesden)
1316 Henry de Beyton held as parcel of possession of Abbey of St Edmunds
1539–1885 Crown property (in possession of Bacon family at one time – no dates)
1885 Sir Thomas Walpole owns

14. Market/Fair:

15. Real Property:

1844 £940 rental value
1891 £1,215 rateable value
1912 £1,154 rateable value

16. Land ownership:

1844–1912 Land always sub-divided

17. Resident gentry:

1844 Henry Cocksedge, William Walpole
1912 H.W.J. Lock, F.W. Horne, E.J. Bayne

18. Occupations:

1500–1549 1 husbandman
1550–1599 1 yeoman
1600–1649 5 yeomen, 2 spinsters, 2 husbandmen
1650–1699 6 yeomen, 1 wheelwright, 1 rector
1844 2 victuallers, 2 shoemakers, cooper, 3 butchers, thatcher, blacksmith, bricklayer, woodman, grocer/drapers, baker, Wheelwright, watchmaker, boarding school teacher, lath render, 7 farmers
1912 Sub-postmistress, police officer, schoolmistress, 2 publicans, 3 farmers, baker, blacksmith, assistant overseer, carpenter, fruit grower, coal merchant, painter, stationer, grocer/drapers, 2 butchers, cycle agent, beer retailer

19. Education:

- 1818 1 Sunday school (20-30 attend)
1833 2 daily schools (10 attend), 1 day and boarding establishment (33 attend), 1 Sunday school (Established church) (40 attend)
1 Sunday school (Independent) (50 attend)
1844 Boarding school listed
Schools Board formed and school built 1872 (not open until 1877)
average attendance 1891 – 55. Average attendance 1912 – 67
Closed 1976.
1953 Secondary Modern school opened. 579 pupils attend 1986/7
aged between 9 and 13 years
1976 Primary school children (aged 5–9 years) attend Thurston

20. Poor relief:

- 1776 £ 92 15s. 9d.
1803 £117 8s. 4³/₄d.
1818 £174 3s.
1830 £242 5s.
1832 £248 1s.
1834 £236 13s.

21. Charities:

Poor's Money

- 1786 £20 and £10 mentioned in Returns of
Charitable Donations (no date for loss)

22. Other institutions:

- 1803 2 Friendly Societies (54 members)
1891 Reading room, iron structure owned by Rev Hawkins
Beyton Village Club and Reading Room
1912 Village Hall used for general public purposes and
Entertainments
Police constable listed

23. Recreation:

- 1844–1912 The White Horse and The Bear public house
Beer retailer
West Suffolk Polo Club c.1908–1914
Public house called 'Hole in the Wall' c.1914
Sweet William Club (purpose unknown) c.1920

24. Personal:

25. Other information:

'Beyton – Early 1900s' by Patrick Long. East Anglian Magazine Vol. 40.

Village wins Best Kept Village sign 1974.

A45 bypass opens 1978 diverting traffic away from village which had become an accident blackspot with increasing volume of traffic.

White Horse public house contains 60' deep well protected by grille.

Brook farmhouse: 17th cent., Grade II listed